MR. A. THANU PILLAI: May I know the total estimated value of the assets, belonging to the lessee, now in the factory?

MR. C. KUMARA DAS: It will be over a lakh of rupees, according to the report.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI: Does the Honourable member make himself responsible for that statement? Has he ascertained for a fact the value of those assets, or does he base his statement on the information of the Company's report?

PRESIDENT: Who is in possession of the factory now.

MR. C. KUMARA DAS: Government, Sir.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI: If so, what is the position to day? Has the lease terminated?

MR. C. KUMARA DAS: Technically, the lease has terminated and the Government are in possession of the factory; but negotiations are being carried on for the further working of the factory.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI: With the same company?

MR. C. KUMARA DAS: With that company as well as with others.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI: May I ask why the Government entered into the contract with the company before being assured of its solvency, or capacity to carry on the work of the factory.

MR. C. KUMARA DAS: A joint stock company on limited liability basis was floated, and from the capital subscribed they were solvent, when they took over.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI: From what date did the company begin to make default in respect of payment of Government dues?

MR. C. KUMARA DAS: I claim notice.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI: May I know why Government did not take immediate action when they made default in payment?

MR. C. KUMARA DAS: There were protracted negotiations; Mr. P. V. Swaminathan, the promoter, fell ill, and it was not possible to push through the negotiations.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI: May I ask whether, therefore, it was not after all a one-man's affair?

MR. C. KUMARA DAS: In all companies, Sir, it is generally one-man the managing director, that runs the business.

PRESIDENT: Honourable member may inform the House who the prominent share holders in the company are.

MR. C. KUMARA DAS: Mr. P. V. Swaminathan himself was a share-holder, Mr. A. V. Thomas, and Mr. Johnson are among the other prominent share holders

Monetary help to the State Aided Bank

346. ***MR. K. R. NARAYANAN** (*Vaikom* cum *Kottayam*): Will the Government be pleased to state what monetary help they have rendered to the State Aided Bank of Travancore?

MR. K. J. CHERIYAN (*Financial Secretary to Government*): The member is referred to the recent Press Note dated 22nd February 1938 issued by Government defining the exact position.

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MR. KOTTALIL P. ABRAHAM: May I know whether copies of the Press note are available to the members of the House?

MR. K. J. CHERIYAN (*Ag. Financial Secretary to Government*): Yes, Sir,

MR. KOTTALIL P. ABRAHAM: Have such copies been sent to the members of the House?

MR. K. J. CHERIYAN: No. Sir.

MR. KOTTALIL P. ABRAHAM: On a point of order, Sir. The answer says—

"The member is referred to the recent Press Note dated 22nd February 1938....."

But, we have not been furnished with the copies of the Press Note.

PRESIDENT: The answer is irregular; it ought to have been followed with the sentence "Such Press Note is placed on the table.". Such mistakes will not recur in future.

Pay-ward attached to the Quilon District Hospital.

347. *MR. S. NARAYANA PILLAI (*Quilon* cum *Kottarakara*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether there is a pay-ward attached to the Quilon District Hospital; and

(*b*) if the answer to part (*a*) is in the negative, whether they have taken any steps to supply the need for a pay-ward?

MR. R. KRISHNASWAMI RAO: (*a*) No.

(*b*) This will be considered when the question of reorganisation of hospitals is taken up.

MR. P. KUNJUKRISHNAN: When will the reorganisation be made?

MR. R. KRISHNASWAMI RAO: A general reorganisation is under consideration but it will be of interest to the honourable members to know that, arrangements have been made for the shifting of the out-patient ward of the Victoria Hospital to the neighbouring Bank Building, so that the place now occupied by the out-patient ward will be converted into pay-ward.

MR. P. KUNJUKRISHNAN: May I know whether the reorganisation referred to in part (*b*) of the answer relates to a general reorganisation of all the hospitals in the State or of this Quilon hospital alone?

MR. R. KRISHNASWAMI RAO: A general reorganisation of all the hospitals in the State is under consideration; the reorganisation of this Quilon hospital has already been taken up.

Medical examination of persons appointed to the Government Service.

348. *MR. A. THANU PILLAI: Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether medical examination is conducted in the case of all persons appointed to the Government service; and

(*b*) whether any such examination was conducted in the case of late Mr. T. S. Narayana Aiyar, High Court Judge, before he was entertained in Travancore service, if so, who conducted the examination?

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